

# Chronicles and The Book Of Daniel,PsaLMs,ReveLation,KINGJAMES VERSION BIBLE,were whaLes considered fish during BibLical Times

During biblical times, the distinction between whales and fish as understood in modern scientific classification did not exist. The languages and cultures of the Bible used broader, more general terms for large sea creatures.

- **Jonah and the "Great Fish":** In the Hebrew text of Jonah 1:17 (Jonah 2:1 in some versions), the phrase is *dag gadol* (דג גדול), meaning "great fish." This term is generic and does not specify a particular species<sup>[1] [2] [3]</sup>.
- **Greek and Latin Translations:** In the Greek Septuagint, the word *kētei megalōi* (κήτει μεγάλῳ) is used, meaning "huge fish" or "sea monster." In the Latin Vulgate, *piscis grandis* (great fish) is used for Jonah, while in the New Testament (Matthew 12:40), the Greek *kētos* (κῆτος) is translated as "whale" in some English versions, but *kētos* itself is a general term for a large sea creature, not strictly a whale or fish<sup>[1] [4] [5]</sup>.
- **English Translations:** The King James Version (KJV) uses "great fish" in Jonah and "whale" in Matthew 12:40. This reflects the evolving understanding of sea creatures over time. The KJV translators used "whale" for *kētos* because, by their day, *cetus* (the Latin equivalent) had come to mean "whale," but in antiquity, it was a more general term for a large sea monster or fish<sup>[1] [4] [6]</sup>.
- **Biblical Classification:** The Bible itself does not use modern scientific categories. In 1 Corinthians 15:39, for example, "fishes" is a broad category for aquatic creatures, not limited to what we now call fish<sup>[6]</sup>.

## Summary Table

Biblical Text	Original Language Term	Translation (KJV)	Modern Scientific Equivalent
Jonah 1:17	<i>dag gadol</i> (Hebrew)	great fish	large aquatic creature
Matthew 12:40	<i>kētos</i> (Greek)	whale	whale, sea monster, big fish

In conclusion, whales were not scientifically distinguished from fish during biblical times, and the terminology used in the Bible reflects a more general understanding of large sea creatures, not the modern biological classification<sup>[1] [6] [4]</sup>.



1. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jonah>

2. <https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Jonah-1-17/>

3. <https://armstronginstitute.org/315-what-was-the-great-fish-that-swallowed-jonah>
4. <https://www.lapcoc.org/single-post/was-it-a-fish-or-a-whale>
5. <https://veritasdomain.wordpress.com/2016/11/20/bible-contradiction-was-jonah-swallowed-by-a-fish-or-a-whale/>
6. <https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/5f4766d57c3ad/content/pages/documents/1345297514.pdf>